

Docket No.: 260742US26PCT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

RE: Application Serial No. 10/511,440

Applicants: Akinobu KAKIMOTO, et al.

Filing Date: October 25, 2004

For: PROCESSING DEVICE USING SHOWER

HEAD STRUCTURE AND PROCESSING

METHOD

Group Art Unit: 1763

Examiner: NG, JAMES WAI HEUNG

SIR:

Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

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EDQCKET NO.: 260742US26PCT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION OF

: EXAMINER: NG, JAMES WAI HEUNG

SERIAL NO: 10/511,440

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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

SIR:

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated January 8, 2007, the Applicants elect with traverse the invention of Group II corresponding to Claims 7-9.

The Applicants respectfully traverse the restriction requirement based on the fact that the claims of the present invention would appear to be part of an overlapping search area.

Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully traverse the outstanding restriction requirement on the grounds that a search and examination of the entire application would not place an additional burden on the Examiner.

Additionally, the Applicants note that the groups are indicated as lacking unity a posteriori, "since the apparatus is not a technical feature that defines a contribution over the prior art," yet no search or consideration of the prior art has been conducted at this stage.

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Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the requirement to elect a single invention be withdrawn, and that a full examination on the merits of Claims 1-9 be conducted.

Respectfully Submitted,

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